

1505

GIBSON, Joe Aber 81

CONF009078

DYKES_I_006947

C-8

CONFIDENTIAL RECORD SHEET
REGISTRATION AND SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

APPENDIX B.

DATE August 25, 1981

FULL NAME Joe Noel Gibson
(No initials if you can possibly get full name)
ADDRESS 15555 60th Street North
CITY Clearwater STATE Florida ZIP CODE 33520
DATE OF BIRTH 9-26-39 (This is important and should be exact)
APPROXIMATE AGE 42 (To be used ONLY when date of birth is not known)
RELIGION Methodist NATIONALITY —
OCCUPATION Unemployed — Vol. Fireman, Paramedic ^{METHODIST} ~~FORMER MINISTER~~
EDUCATION College
WEIGHT 230 COLOR W HEIGHT 6'
COLOR OF HAIR Brown COLOR OF EYES Brown
OUTSTANDING CHARACTERISTICS OR INTERESTS Computers - Carpentry
MARRIED OR SINGLE Married CHILDREN 3 - 20-7-12 (Girls)
(Number, ages, and names, if possible)
WIFE'S NAME Vierna Lou

SCOUTING CONNECTIONS:

UNIT #	CITY	STATE	OFFICE	DATE REGISTERED	DATE RESIGNED
OA					
T-410	Clearwater	FL	Seminole		
P-410	"	"	"	11-25-78	

SPECIAL RECOGNITION _____

RECOMMENDED FOR CONFIDENTIAL FILE FOR FOLLOWING REASONS:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> CONVICTION OF CRIMINAL CONDUCT | <input type="checkbox"/> SUBSTANTIATED REPORTS |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OFFICIAL CHARGES OF CRIMINAL CONDUCT (REVIEW) | <input type="checkbox"/> UNSUBSTANTIATED REPORTS |

SPECIFY THE FACTS WHICH LEAD YOU TO RECOMMEND INDIVIDUAL FOR CONFIDENTIAL FILE
AND LIST SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Newspaper clippings

NOIED

F. STARN

JUL 14 '82

SEP 14 1981

JOSEPH L. ANGLIM

Signed

SCOUT EXECUTIVE
89

Council _____

CONF009079

DYKES_I_006948

July 22, 1982

Mr. Grant R. Wallin
Scout Executive
W. Central Florida Council, No. 89

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Joe Noel Gibson

Dear Grant:

Thank you for the detailed information concerning the above Scouter. We have reviewed this case with our Attorney and have now placed this man on the Confidential File.

Sincerely,

Paul I. Ernst, Director
Registration Subscription &
Statistical Service

eko

cc: Southeast Region
W. Robert Sowers, Area Director, Southeast Region

CONF009080

DYKES_I_006949



June 15, 1982

Dear Mr. Ernst:

The enclosed can be included in your
file on Joe Noel Gibson.

Please see our letter dated Aug. 25, 1981.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "M.H. Redding".

M.H. Redding
Secretary to Scout Executive
Grant R. Wallin, Jr.

F. STARON
JUN 17 1982

CONF009081

DYKES_I_006950

spokesman Bob How

Man gets 15 years for molesting Scouts

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — A man who pleaded guilty to molesting young Boy Scouts on camping trips was sentenced to 15 years in prison despite a request for leniency from the mother of two victims. Joe N. Gibson, 42, was Scoutmaster of a Pinellas County troop until his arrest last August. Thirteen complaints were filed and he pleaded guilty to four charges of handling and fondling a child.

Prosecutor Eileen Jacobs said some of the boys said they submitted to Gibson so they could get ahead in scouting.

Circuit Court Judge Thomas E. Pencil sentenced Gibson to 60 years in prison, with all but 15 years suspended and the remainder probated.

Some parents insisted that Gibson go to jail. But one woman, whose two sons were molested, told the judge, "Mr. Gibson has an illness, and prison will not help him. With love, my children have understood that Mr. Gibson has an illness."

CONF009082

DYKES_I_006951

Scout leader sentenced to 15-year term in sex case

By JAMES HARPER
St. Petersburg Times Staff Writer

Joe Noel Gibson, leader of a Boy Scout troop, did not deny what he had done to his boys. And a doctor said he was sick — pedophilia, an abnormal sexual attraction for children.

The question, however, that divided parents and confronted the judge: Should Gibson be sent to jail or treated in a hospital?

He got jail, week after week.

Pinellas Circuit Judge Thomas E. Penick Jr. sentenced Gibson to 60 years in prison Friday. Penick suspended all but 15 years of the sentence but ordered the 42-year-old man to spend the balance of the time under probation. During that time he must remain in counseling and be forbidden any contact with children other than his own.

EVEN WITH an early parole, Penick said, Gibson would spend at least 10 years in jail. He will be on probation until he is 102.

Gibson was scoutmaster of a troop in mid-Pinellas County when he was arrested last August. The incidents had occurred on camping trips and in Gibson's home at 15555 60th St. N.

Prosecutor Eileen Jacobs said some of the boys had felt they should submit to Gibson in order to advance in the troop. Some boys told sheriff's deputies that they had been afraid Gibson might beat them if they resisted or told their parents.

Eventually, however, one boy did tell his parents. They called other parents, and the story emerged.

Gibson pleaded guilty to four charges of handling and fondling a child and one charge of committing a lewd and lascivious act in the presence of a child. Each charge involved a different boy.

See SEX CASE, TP-B

Sex case

ferent boys, Jacobs said eight other boys had filed complaints.

At the sentencing Friday, most parents were adamant that Gibson be punished. "It's going to take me years as a stepfather to get (my) three boys to trust another male adult," said a man whose sons were abused.

A WOMAN remembered one of her sons asking her, "Do I have to go on this camping trip, Mom?" She had said yes.

He dutifully obeyed, she recalled, "and was forced to have sex with Gibson in his tent that night."

Jacobs said Gibson was supposed to have been a role model for his scoutmaster. Instead, she said, "I think he thought that one of the young persons should marry in order to get a job."

Jacobs said she had heard from five other parents on the case. All but one said Gibson should go to jail.

THAT PARENTS and several other persons felt differently.

One woman said Gibson had molested her two sons. But she brought them to the courtroom Friday and told the judge, "Mr. Gibson has an illness

and prison will not help him. With love, my children have understood that Mr. Gibson has an illness. Our children have visited him in jail. Our family loves Mr. Gibson."

A professor at Asbury Theological Seminary and the director of Florida United Methodist Camps, for whom Gibson has worked as a youth director, both wrote letters on his behalf.

Gibson's wife Berna Lu and his defense attorney Frank Quesada said society would be better served if Gibson got psychiatric help. "Prison aggravates these kinds of illnesses," said Quesada. "Someday later Mr. Gibson will be back in society."

GIBSON TOLD Penick that he had sought counseling for his problem long before he was arrested. But the clinic he went to was less discreet than he expected. "He said, 'and he stopped going. Now he called for another chance. In the time I've been out, I've been able to control the situation.'"

Mr. Gibson, you have failed a lot of people, including yourself," said Penick. "Only hope that in the remainder of your life you remember that in a civilized world we have rules and laws, and no individual has the right to break them."

In announcing his sentence, Penick said he would recommend that Gibson spend some time at a sex offenders' treatment center run by state prison officials in Gainesville. Penick said the center will take people for a maximum of two years.

Gibson, tears in his eyes and his wife at his side, was fingerprinted as two daughters stood crying behind him. The two boys whose mother had asked for leniency stared from the front row. After a five-minute goodbye to his family in private rooms, Gibson was taken away.

QUESADA LATER told Penick that the sentence was one of the harshest for such a crime he had seen in court. Penick had told Quesada that Gibson's psychological report troubled him. "The report is not a public document."

Afterward, Penick spoke generally of the difficulties judges face when a person is sick but has also done something wrong. "The person must be punished as well as rehabilitated. The judge must take reasonable precautions that the defendant not do it again. Others who might commit the same crime must be warned."

Quesada said he understood Jacobs, the prosecutor, was subdued. For a while, nobody smiled.

February 9, 1982

Mr. Grant R. Wallin
Scout Executive
W. Central Florida Council, No. 89

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Joe Noel Gibson

Dear Grant:

Would appreciate more information concerning the above named individual. Since some time has lapsed since we last heard from you, we would appreciate knowing if this individual has been to trial and whether a sentence has been imposed. This information will be most helpful to us in strengthening our file.

Sincerely,

Paul I. Ernst, Director
Registration, Subscription &
Statistical Service

eko

cc: Southeast Region

CONF009084

DYKES_I_006953

September 15, 1981

Mr. Grant R. Wallin
Scout Executive
W. Central Florida Council, No. 89

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

Subject: Joe Noel Gibson

Dear Grant:

Thanks for the information which you sent concerning the above named individual. We have started a file on this man and hope to receive more information from you as it is available.

We will certainly need the outcome of any trial which takes place and the sentencing which is incurred.

Please let me know if there are further problems or information with which we can help you. In the mean time we will hold the individual on file so that he cannot register in any other situation.

Sincerely,

Paul I. Ernst, Director
Registration, Subscription &
Statistical Service

deb

cc: Southeast Region

CONF009085

DYKES_I_006954

Legally blind Boy Scout leader faces sex abuse charges

story also appears in some regional editions of The Times.

CLEARWATER — A legally blind Boy Scout troop leader has been arrested and charged with involuntary sexual battery and lewd and lascivious conduct with members of his troop aged 10 to 12.

Pinellas Sheriff's Detective Sgt. Terry McKenna of the juvenile unit said last Noel Gibson, 42, 15555 60th St. N., Clearwater, was arrested Sunday about 11 p.m. on a business in the High Point area.

Gibson is accused of fondling some of the boys and having oral sex with at least one of them, McKenna said. The alleged abuses took place during the past six months on camping trips and in the High Point area where the troop meets.

Gibson, who is unemployed and receives Social Security, is Scoutmaster of Troop 410, which has a membership of about 23 youths, McKenna said. Gibson, who has some sight, has been associated with the troop for two and a half years.

"We just heard about this at 5 p.m. Sunday and began our investigations then," McKenna said.

The sheriff's department became involved after some of the parents learned from their sons of Gibson's alleged sexual abuses. The parents got together over the weekend and matched their sons' stories for accuracy and then decided to tell authorities, McKenna said.

"Just about all the boys had the same story," McKenna said.

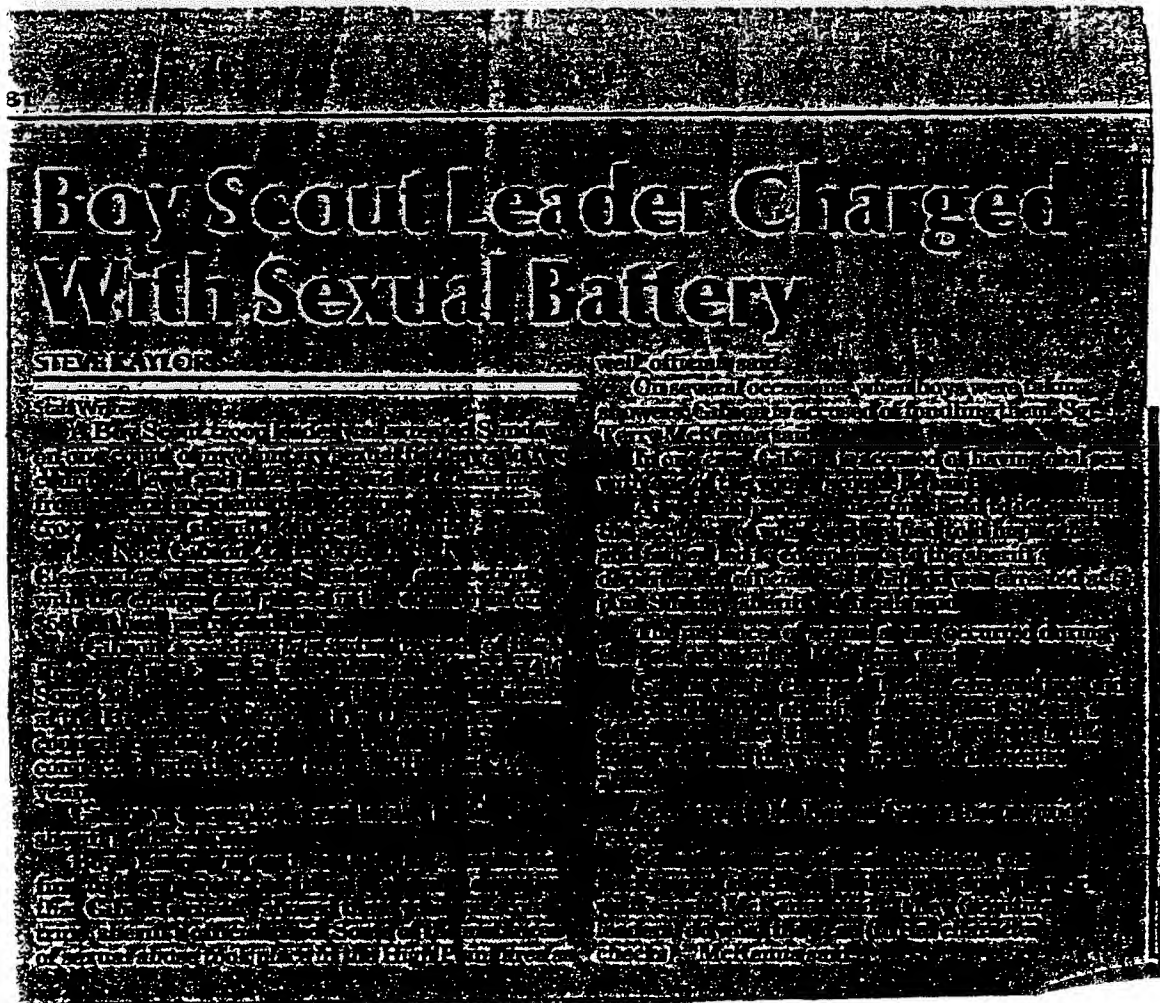
Gibson is accused of fondling some of the

boys while they were taking showers, McKenna said. And the scoutmaster allegedly lured the boys into some encounters under the pretense of helping them work on merit badges and other scout-related things, he said.

The youths didn't tell anyone about Gibson sooner, the detective said, because the man had asked them not to, saying he would get in trouble and probably go to jail if they did.

Board members of the Pinellas Area Council of the Boy Scouts told McKenna it is their policy to make background checks on all persons who are to work with the youths. Their check on Gibson came up clean, they said. And Gibson has no prior criminal record, McKenna said.

Other alleged victims have come forward since Gibson's arrest, McKenna said. As a result, the investigation is continuing, he added.



Sex-related charges filed against Boy Scout troop leader

...the man, who is unemployed and legally blind, was charged with sexual battery and lewd and lascivious conduct towards three boys younger than 12 years old, sheriff's deputies said.

Joseph M. Gibson, 42, 15555 60th St. N., was taken to county jail where bail was set at \$30,000 bail.

For two years, Gibson led Scouts in Troop 410, based at the High Point Volunteer Fire Department, Sgt. Terry McKenna said.

The troop now has 23 Scouts, police said.

The charges against the man stem from incidents during the last six months, McKenna said. Seven Scouts were interviewed and additional charges are pending.

The Scouts said the man offered to help them work individually on merit badge projects. A lot of these occurred on campouts, some of them in the High Point area, McKenna said.

The charges involve fondling and, in one case, oral sex. "The kids were scared when he would take their clothes off," McKenna said.

Authorities said parents of four boys met over the weekend to determine "if the boys were making up the stories." After talking, they contacted other parents. When the parents of six or seven boys said their sons had similar complaints, they called the sheriff's department.

McKenna said all the parents knew Gibson, who is unemployed and legally blind. The parents told police they believed the acts should be reported but were not vindictive towards the man, McKenna said.

AUG. 25 MON. CLW. SUN Scout leader accused of sexual battery

A 42-year-old Clearwater Boys Scout leader Sunday was charged with sexual battery and lewd and lascivious conduct towards three boys younger than 12 years old, sheriff's deputies said.

Joseph M. Gibson, 42, 15555 60th St. N., was taken to county jail where bail was set at \$30,000 bail.

For two years, Gibson led Scouts in Troop 410, based at the High Point Volunteer Fire Department, Sgt. Terry McKenna said.

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McKenna said all the parents knew Gibson, who is unemployed and legally blind. The parents told police they believed the acts should be reported but were not vindictive towards the man, McKenna said.

Clearwater Independent Aug 24, 1981

Scout Leader Charged With Sexual Battery

STEVE KAYLOR

Staff Writer

A Boy Scout troop leader was arrested Sunday on one count of involuntary sexual battery and two counts of lewd and lascivious conduct stemming from several incidents that occurred on weekend troop outings, sheriff's officials said today.

Joe Noel Gibson, 42, 15555 60th St. N, Clearwater, was arrested Sunday in connection with the charges and placed in the county jail on \$55,000 bail, jail records show.

Gibson, according to scouting records of the Pinellas Area Council, is Scoutmaster of Troop 410. Some 23 boys are members of the troop that meets at the Highpoint Volunteer Fire Department, council scouting records show. He had been connected with the scout troop for the past 2½ years.

Gibson is unemployed and legally blind, sheriff's officials said.

Boys, ranging in age from 10 to 12, complained first to their parents and then to sheriff's deputies that Gibson sexually abused them while on scout trips, sheriff's officials said. Some of the instances of sexual abuse took place in the High Point area as well, officials said.

On several occasions, when boys were taking showers, Gibson is accused of fondling them, Sgt. Terry McKenna said.

In one case, Gibson is accused of having oral sex with one of the young scouts, he said.

A weekend parents' meeting, held to determine the accuracy of what one boy had told his mother and father, led to complaints to the sheriff's department, officials said. Gibson was arrested at 5 p.m. Sunday, sheriff's officials said.

The instances of sexual abuse occurred during the past six months, McKenna said.

Gibson was in charge of health care and first aid on scouting trips, sheriff's officials said. Sheriff's officials said they know of at least five boys in the troop who said they were victims of the sexual abuse.

"There may be more because not all the parents are aware of what has been going on," McKenna said.

According to McKenna, Gibson has no prior record.

Council scouting officials routinely run background checks on leaders who apply to work with scouts, McKenna said. "They (scouting leaders) do what they can (to run character checks)," McKenna said.

Off-Duty Police Officer Beaten In Parking Lot

ROBIN MITCHELL

Beach Bureau Chief

the two, Covert said Reilly fired the Derringer's two bullets into the ground to empty it.

Staff Writer

HIGH POINT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
15481 58th St. N.
CLEARWATER, FLORIDA 33520

August 24, 1981

Joe N. Gibson
15555 60th St. N.
Clearwater, Fla. 33520

Dear Mr. Gibson:

With the power vested in me as the Institutional Representative for the High Point Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., representing the department in it's sponsorship of Boy Scout Troop 410, and due to the charges made against you by the Pinellas County Sheriff's Department I find I must suspend you indefinitely from any activities concerning the Boy Scouts of America and your involvement as Scoutmaster with Troop 410.

I must also at this time request your resignation as Scoutmaster for the B.S.A.

Respectfully,



Robert Preston,
Chief

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DYKES_I_006958